

REMARKS

The Office Action of March 24, 2004 presents the examination of claims 1, 4-6, 9-13, 16-18, 21, 23-28, 30-38 and 41-46. The present paper cancels claims 6, 9-13, 16-18, 21, 23-25, 28, 30-38 and 41-46.

The Office Action of March 24, 2004, indicates that the remaining pending claims 1, 4, 5, 26 and 27 are allowable. Accordingly, the favorable actions of allowance of these claims and passage of the application to issue are respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Mark J. Nuell (Reg. No. 36,623) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicant respectfully petitions for a two (2) month extension of time for filing a response in connection with the present application. The required fee of \$420.00 is attached hereto.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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Attachment(s) :

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